Message Text

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CINCPACREP PASS TO STATUS LNO FROM AMB ROSENBLATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, TQ

SUBJECT: CFPST PROPOSAL FOR JOINT FINANCIAL WORKING GROUP

REF: A. STATE 014318;B. STATUS LNO 032

1. IN LINE WITH POINTS MADE IN REF A AND HICOM VIEWS OF REF B,FOLLOWING IS PROPOSED LETTER FROM ME TO CFS CHAIRMAN BAILEY OLTER IN RESPONSE TO HIS LETTER OF 6 JAN 1978. NOTE THAT SUGGESTION MADE IN MY LETTER DIFFERS FROM HICOM VIEWSAS STATED REF B ONLY IN SENSE THAT RATHER THAN INSISTING THAT ALL POLSTACOMS ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN WORK OF GROUP, THE RESULTS OF THE WORK DONE BY THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND STATISTICS BE AVAILABLE FOR ALL POLSTACOMS FOR WHATEVER PURPOSES THEY DESIRE. PLS SHARE THIS LETTER WITH HICOM. IF HE APPROVES WITHOUT CHANGE, CABLEIT TO SENATOR OLTER AND ADVISE ME. UPON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RECEIPT OF YOUR ADVICE I WILL SEND HARD COPY LETTER FROM HERE. IF HICOM HAS ANY CHANGES PLEASE CABLE THEM SO WE CAN CLEAR BEFORE YOU DISPATCH LETTER TO SENATOR OLTER. WE HAVE SHARED TEXT OF LETTER WITH OTA WHICH DEFERS TO HICOM VIEWS.

2. BEGIN TEXT. DEAR SENATOR OLTER:

- THIS LETTER WILL RESPOND TO YOURS OF JANUARY 5,1978
 BY WHICH THE COMMITTEE ON FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS OF THE
 COMMISSION ON FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS AND TRANSITION
 PROPOSED THE FORMATION OF A JOINT U.S.-MICRONESIA ECONOMIC
 WORKING GROUP TO AID THE PARTIES IN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS.
- THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS AND I HAVE REVIEWED WITH CARE THE TERMS OF YOUR PROPOSAL AND OF CONGRESSMAN SETIK'S PARALLEL PROPOSAL OF DECEMBER 22.1977 TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER.
- THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS AGREEABLE TO THE THRUST OF THE COMMITTEE'S PROPOSAL BUT DEPARTS TO SOME EXTENT FROM THE COMMITTEE'S SUGGESTIONS AS TO THE PROPOSED TASK FORCE'S COMPOSITION AND OBJECTIVES.
- WHEN I DISCUSSED THE PROPOSAL WITH CHAIRMAN AMARAICH IN TRUK LAST DECEMBER AND WITH YOU LAST MONTH IN SAN DIEGO I BELIEVE THAT YOU EACH CONCURRED WITH THE IDEA THAT THE TASK FORCE SHOULD BE A TECHNICAL AND DATA-GATHERING INSTRUMENTALITY. AS SUCH IT COULD PLAY A USEFUL ROLE IN FURNISHING ANY OF THE PARTIES TO THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH A RELIABLE DATA BASE UPON WHICH TO BASE ITS OWN PLANS AND NEGOTIATING POSITIONS.

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- WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT SUCH A TECHNICAL GROUP SHOULD BE ASKED TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE LEVEL OF U.S. POST TRUSTEESHIP ASSISTANCE TO MICRONESIA OR TO MAKE SUBSTANTIVE JUDGMENTS ABOUT THE LEVEL OF ITS FUTURE NEEDS. WE THINK THAT SUCH MATTERS ARE BEST RESERVED TO THE NEGOTIATIONS THEMSELVES AND AS SUCH BEYOND THE LEGITIMATE SCOPE OF A TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP'S COMPETENCE.
- ACCORDINGLY, WE SUGGEST THAT IF YOU CONCUR, SUCH A STUDY BE CARRIED OUT BY THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT'S OFFICE OF PLANNING AND STATISTICS (OPS) POSSIBLY WITHIN TWO MONTHS TIME. I RECALL CHAIRMAN AMARAICH TELLING ME IN DECEMBERTHAT THE COMMISSION HAD REQUESTED THE DATA IT REQUIRES FROM THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT, BUT THAT IT HAD BEEN ADVISED THAT SUCH INFORMATION WAS SIMPLY NOT AVAILABLE. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ASSURES ME THAT HE COULD DIVERT OPS' FACILITIES AND CAPABILITIES FROM OTHER WORK AND MAKE THEM AVAILABLE FOR THE PURPOSE OF GENERATING SUCH NECESSARY INFORMATION AS MAY NOT PRESENTLY BE

AVAILABLE. WE DO BELIEVE THAT THIS INFORMATION MUST BE AVAILABLE, WHEN PRODUCED, TO EACH OF THE PARTIES TO THE

NEGOTIATIONS.

- IF THIS APPROACH IS ACCEPTABLE IT WOULD NOT SEEM NECESSARY TO FORM THE FORMAL WORKING GROUP SUGGESTED IN YOUR JANUARY 5 LETTER. HOWEVER, WE WOULD CERTAINLY CONSIDER IT ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE IF THE PARTIES TO THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE TO APPOINT A LIAISON TO COORDINATEWITH OPS IN ITS WORK.
- I SHALL LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING YOUR VIEWS ON THIS MATTER AND WORKING WITH YOU ON A TERMS OF REFERENCE DOCUMENT FOR THE OPS.
- SINCERELY, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PETER R. ROSENBLATTAMBASSADOR

END TEXT.

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